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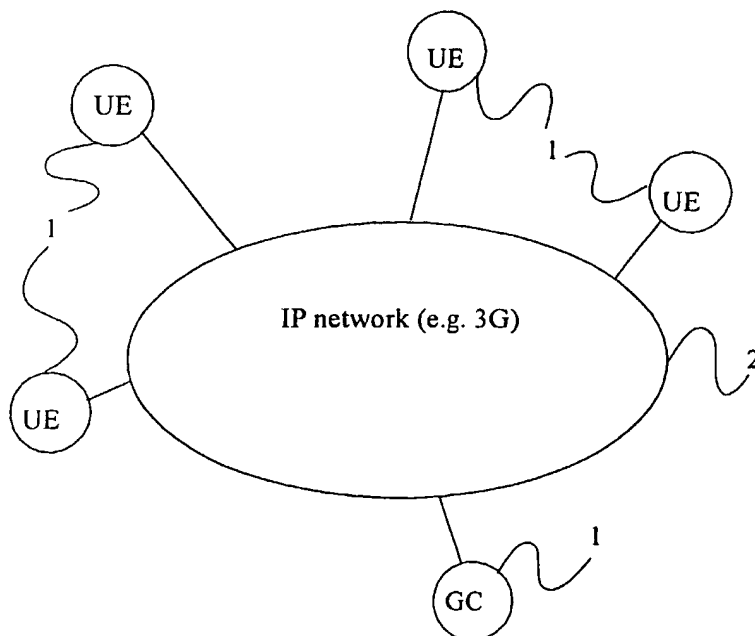
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(54) Title: SECURE BROADCAST/MULTICAST SERVICE



(57) **Abstract:** A method of authenticating candidate members 1 wishing to participate in an IP multicast via a communication network, where data sent as part of the multicast is to be encrypted using a Logical Key Hierarchy based scheme requiring that each candidate member submit a public key to a group controller. The method comprises, at the group controller 1, verifying that the public key received from each candidate member 1 is owned by that member and that it is associated with the IP address of that candidate member 1 by inspecting an interfaceID part of the IP address.

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